

REMARKS

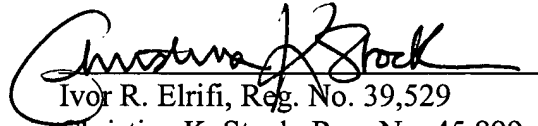
As first indicated in the Response filed on August 25, 2004, claims 5, 6, 8-15, 17-21, 44-49, 51-56 and new claims 57-75 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 1-4, 7, 16, 22-23, and 50 were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 5, 6, 8-15, 17-21, 44-49, and 51-56 were amended in the Response filed on August 25, 2004. Following a November 4, 2004 telephone conversation with the Examiner, Applicants understand that no patentability issues remain in this case. However, the Examiner identified various informalities in claims 46, 55, and 68. These informalities have been corrected in the instant Supplemental Response and Amendment.

Support for the proposed claim amendments as well as the new claims can be found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed. Thus, no new matter has been added by this amendment.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding these remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina K. Stock", is written over a horizontal line.

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

Christina K. Stock, Reg. No. 45,899
c/o MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,
GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.

Tel: (617) 542-6000

Fax: (617) 542-2241

Customer No. 30263